

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

June 17, 1977

As provided under the provisions of Section 14, Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Texas, I disapprove of S.B. No. 69 and am filing same with the Secretary of State setting forth the following objections:

I disapprove of Senate Bill No. 69, which would create a new procedure proposed to lessen the adverse impact of public works projects on fish and wildlife resources. The bill provides that in the event of disagreement between state agencies about the effects of a public construction project on game resources, the governor shall supervise an agency process of comment and review, designed to develop a single state position to be used in dealing with the federal government. Under existing law, interagency planning councils have been established to coordinate planning efforts of state agencies, and the councils have ample authority to discover and remedy disagreements between state agencies at the time of project planning, without the additional layer of bureaucratic hearings and review that Senate Bill No. 69 would require.

The bill creates ambiguity by providing that it does not restrict any state agency power granted by the constitution or statutes. This provision effectively removes the purpose of the complicated procedural requirements of the bill and renders them meaningless. The division of planning coordination in the governor's office can perform the function of studying the problem to identify and define what an adverse impact of public works projects on fish and wildlife resources means, which is a major purpose set out in the bill for the study committee.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the seal of the State of Texas to be affixed hereto at Austin, Texas, this 17th day of June, 1977.